

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

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S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0075

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: FLANK SECURITY ISSUE

REF: A) USNATO 3099; B) USNATO 2906

1. WE AGREE WITH COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED
PARAS 4 AND 5 OF REF (A).

2. AT THE SAME TIME, WE SHARE USNATO'S CONCERN OVER
IMPLICATION OF THE WORD "INDIRECTLY" IN BELGIAN REP'S
REVISION OF GREEK LANGUAGE (PARA 4 OF REB B). WE ALSO
BELIEVE THAT, AS A GENERAL RULE, IT IS UNDESIRABLE FOR
THE NAC TO AGREE ON TREATY-TYPE LANGUAGE FOR USE WITH
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THE EAST IN NEGOTIATIONS. THIS HAS NOT BEEN DONE WITH

REGARD TO OTHER ASPECTS OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH LANGUAGE IS PREMATURE AT THIS STAGE AND TENDS SIMPLY TO RESTRICT THE NEGOTIATING FLEXIBILITY OF THE ALLIES. WHAT IS NEEDED NOW IS GENERAL LANGUAGE WHICH CAN BE DRAWN ON FOR USE IN PLENARY AND INFORMAL SESSIONS TO MAKE THE DESIRED POINT WITH THE EAST. THE STAGE OF PRECISE DRAFTING IS FAR OFF.

3. FOR THESE REASONS, WE SUGGEST FOR WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION, FOLLOWING MODIFICATION OF GREEK-BELGIAN FORMULA, INTENDED FOR USE IN PLENARY STATEMENT ON JULY 4. BEGIN TEXT: THE US AND USSR SHOULD UNDERTAKE TO IMPLEMENT THE PHASE I WITHDRAWALS THE ALLIES HAVE PROPOSED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS. SPECIFICALLY, THEY SHOULD AGREE NOT TO REDEPLOY THEIR FORCES WITHDRAWN FROM THE REDUCTION AREA INTO AREAS WHERE THEIR PRESENCE WOULD INFRINGE THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN PARTICULAR, WITHDRAWALS SHOULD NOT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF FLANK PARTICIPANTS. END TEXT.

4. ABOVE LANGUAGE, DRAFTED FOR USE IN ALLIED STATEMENT, DROPS THE BELGIAN PHRASE "DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY" FOLLOWING "FROM THE REDUCTION AREA" AND USES IT IN A DIFFERENT CONTEXT IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE. IT ALSO SUBSTITUTES THE PHRASE "PHASE I WITHDRAWALS" FOR "THIS AGREEMENT," AND ADDS THE WORD "WOULD" AFTER "US AND USSR," AS WELL AS OTHER SMALL CHANGES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS STATEMENT IS NOT INTENDED AS TREATY-TYPE FORMULATION.

5. IN ADDITION, WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO SUGGEST TO THE TURKS THAT, AFTER APPROPRIATE PLENARY STATEMENT IS MADE, WHICH COULD BE BY US REP IF TURKS DESIRE, TURKS MIGHT THEMSELVES RAISE THIS ISSUE IN MOSCOW STATING IMPORTANCE THAT TURKS AND OTHER FLANK ALLIES ASCRIBED TO THE PROVISION. THIS ACTION WOULD MAKE CLEAR TO SOVIETS THAT THERE WOULD BE COSTS IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS IF THEY DID NOT ACCEPT SOME

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FORMULATION OF THIS KIND INTO AGREEMENT WHEN DRAFTING STAGE IS REACHED.

6. IN ORDER TO MEET TURKISH CONCERNS, WASHINGTON MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER DESIRABILITY OF TELLING THE TURKS BILATERALLY THAT THE US WOULD BE WILLING TO REVIEW WITH TURKEY ANY INCREASED THREAT TO THE FLANKS WHICH RESULTED FROM MBFR-RELATED WITHDRAWALS. THIS UNDER-

TAKING COULD BE MADE IN WASHINGTON OR ANKARA AT
SUITABLY HIGH LEVEL AS FOLLOW-ON TO DEPUTY SECRETARY
RUSH'S ASSURANCE TO ESENBEL THAT THE US WILL NOT
ACCEPT A SITUATION WHERE FLANK SECURITY IS THREATENED
IN EXCHANGE FOR REDUCING TROOPS IN CENTRAL EUROPE
(STATE 111009).RESOR

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